

Geneva, 6 July 2017

Mr. Bego Gutić
Tuzla Canton Prime Minister
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Sent by email: uredpremijera@tk.kim.ba

IndustriALL Global Union calls on Tuzla Canton Government to intervene at GIKIL Lukavac and ensure national and international labour standards are upheld

Dear Honourable Prime Minister Gutić,

I write to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industriall-union.org), which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in 140 countries worldwide, including in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to call on your administration to intervene at GIKIL, Lukavac, to guarantee the full respect of workers' rights at the site.

Please note that the Independent Trade Union of Chemistry and Non-metal Workers in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is affiliated to IndustriALL Global Union, and this union represents the GIKIL workers here, via the Samostalni sindikat hemije i nemetala u Federaciji Bosne i Hercegovine.

We strongly condemn the mistreatment of the 1,000 workers at the company, which left the workers no other choice but to strike and demonstrate. Non-payment of wages is an unacceptable breach of international workers' rights, as well as of the national legislation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The union was forced to make an agreement with the employer to simply follow the law and pay wages that were outstanding. The employer did then not respect even this agreement as salaries were again being paid late.

The core conventions of the International Labour Organization 87 and 98 have both been ratified by Bosnia and Herzegovina since 1993. These international standards bind your administration to ensure basic trade union rights at GIKIL. Your government must act upon the legitimate demands of the union.

We are aware that on 22 June 2017, the Tuzla Canton Assembly held a meeting and discussed the demands of union members, which are:

- to finalise the procedure of administratively registering of the ownership structure of the GIKIL d.o.o. Lukavac;
- to implement investments which were planned by founding contract (when the company was taken over);
- to respect laws of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to pay salaries as it was agreed in the collective agreement;

- to respect the Health and Safety Law as the company belongs to coke-chemical industry and to protect 1,000 jobs.

IndustriALL Global Union fully supports these fair demands.

The Tuzla Canton Assembly adopted the conclusions in which they support the justified workers' demands, but it is still to be seen what will happen eventually.

Therefore, IndustriALL Global Union calls on the office of the Tuzla Prime Minister to act on the priority issues at GIKIL of unpaid salaries, investment and ownership problems, occupational health and safety, and protecting the 1,000 jobs.

I anticipate your swift action, and immediate reply.

Sincerely,



Valter Sanches
General Secretary

CC:

Srđan Mićanović, Minister with responsibility for industry, energy and mining
Management of GIKIL d.o.o. Lukavac
Kata Iveljić, President, Samostalni sindikat radnika hemije i nemetala u FBiH